

House File 255 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 255
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 4)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act modifying requirements related to teacher intern
2 license programs and licenses and authorizations issued
3 by the board of educational examiners and establishing a
4 temporary initial teaching license to be issued by the board
5 of educational examiners to applicants who complete an
6 alternative teacher certification program.
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.16, subsection 1, Code 2023, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *m.* If a higher education institution
4 providing practitioner preparation offers a program that is
5 designed to assist students in attaining a teacher intern
6 license from the board of educational examiners, the program
7 shall require participants to satisfy all of the following
8 requirements before completing the program:

9 (1) A participant in the program must have graduated from
10 an accredited or state-approved college or university and must
11 meet the requirements for an endorsement area approved by the
12 board of educational examiners for a teacher intern license.

13 (2) A participant in the program must submit with the
14 application to the program a copy of an offer of employment
15 from a school.

16 (3) A participant in the program must complete the required
17 pedagogy training.

18 (4) A participant in the program must work under the
19 supervision of a teacher leader assigned by the school district
20 or accredited nonpublic school, including during co-teaching
21 and planning time.

22 Sec. 2. Section 272.2, subsection 13, Code 2023, is amended
23 to read as follows:

24 13. Adopt rules to provide for nontraditional preparation
25 options for licensing persons who hold a bachelor's degree
26 or higher from an accredited or state-approved college or
27 university, who do not meet other requirements for licensure.
28 The rules shall, at a minimum, require the board to do all of
29 the following:

30 a. Issue a teacher intern license to an applicant who has
31 enrolled in a program established pursuant to section 256.16,
32 subsection 1, paragraph "m".

33 b. Allow a licensee who has attained a teacher intern
34 license pursuant to paragraph "a" to apply for an initial
35 teaching license if the school that employed the licensee

1 during the licensee's completion of the program established
2 pursuant to section 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph "m", and
3 the higher education institution that operated the program,
4 recommend that the licensee be allowed to apply for an initial
5 teaching license.

6 Sec. 3. Section 272.2, Code 2023, is amended by adding the
7 following new subsection:

8 NEW SUBSECTION. 26. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter
9 17A that allow an individual seeking a career and technical
10 secondary authorization to apply, and if eligible, be issued
11 the secondary authorization prior to accepting an offer of
12 employment with a school.

13 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. **272.17 Temporary initial license for**
14 **applicants who complete an alternative teacher certification**
15 **program.**

16 1. The board shall grant a temporary initial teaching
17 license to an applicant who meets all of the following
18 requirements:

19 a. The applicant shall hold a bachelor's degree from an
20 accredited college or university.

21 b. The applicant shall successfully complete an alternative
22 teacher certification program that includes all of the
23 following:

24 (1) The required content training in the area in which the
25 applicant seeks to be licensed.

26 (2) Pedagogy training, including an examination, that
27 teaches effective instructional delivery, classroom management
28 and organization, assessment, instructional design, and
29 professional learning and leadership.

30 2. To be considered an alternative teacher certification
31 program for purposes of this section, an alternative teacher
32 certification program shall meet all of the following
33 requirements:

34 a. The alternative teacher certification program must
35 operate in at least five states.

1 *b.* The alternative teacher certification program must have
2 been in operation for at least ten years.

3 3. An individual who successfully completes an alternative
4 teacher certification program and who is granted a temporary
5 initial teaching license by the board under this section is
6 authorized to teach the subjects and grade levels that the
7 individual successfully completed during the alternative
8 teacher certification program.

9 4. The board shall treat an individual who successfully
10 completes an alternative teacher certification program and who
11 is granted a temporary initial teaching license by the board
12 under this section in the same manner as an individual who
13 completes a traditional teacher preparation program and who
14 receives an initial teaching license, including during the
15 process of converting the temporary initial teaching license
16 to a standard teaching license.

17 Sec. 5. Section 272.28, Code 2023, is amended to read as
18 follows:

19 **272.28 Licensure beyond a temporary initial license or an**
20 **initial license.**

21 1. Requirements for teacher licensure beyond a temporary
22 initial license or an initial license shall include successful
23 completion of a beginning teacher mentoring and induction
24 program approved by the state board of education pursuant to
25 section 284.5; or two years of successful teaching experience
26 in a school district with an approved career paths, leadership
27 roles, and compensation framework or approved comparable system
28 as provided in [section 284.15](#); or evidence of not less than
29 three years of successful teaching experience at any of the
30 following:

31 *a.* An accredited nonpublic school in this state.

32 *b.* A preschool program approved by the United States
33 department of health and human services.

34 *c.* Preschool programs at school districts approved to
35 participate in the preschool program under [chapter 256C](#).

1 *d.* Shared visions programs receiving grants from the child
2 development coordinating council under [section 256A.3](#).

3 *e.* Preschool programs receiving moneys from the school
4 ready children grants account of the early childhood Iowa fund
5 created in [section 256I.11](#).

6 2. A teacher from an accredited nonpublic school or another
7 state or country is exempt from the requirement of [subsection 1](#)
8 if the teacher can document three years of successful teaching
9 experience and meet or exceed the requirements contained in
10 rules adopted under [this chapter](#) for endorsement and licensure.

11

EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 This bill modifies requirements related to teacher intern
15 license programs and licenses and authorizations issued by
16 the board of educational examiners (BOEE) and establishes a
17 temporary initial teaching license to be issued by the BOEE to
18 applicants who complete an alternative teacher certification
19 program.

20 The bill provides that if a higher education institution
21 providing practitioner preparation offers a program that is
22 designed to assist students in attaining a teacher intern
23 license from the BOEE, the program shall require participants
24 to satisfy certain specified requirements.

25 Current law requires the BOEE to adopt rules to provide
26 for nontraditional preparation options for licensing persons
27 who hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college
28 or university and who do not meet other requirements for
29 licensure. The bill provides that the rules shall require
30 the BOEE to issue a teacher intern license to an applicant
31 who has completed a program offered by a higher education
32 institution providing practitioner preparation that is designed
33 to assist students in attaining a teacher intern license. The
34 bill requires the BOEE to allow a licensee who has attained
35 a teacher intern license under such a program to apply for

1 an initial teaching license if the school that employed
2 the licensee during the program and the higher education
3 institution recommend that the licensee be allowed to apply.

4 The bill requires the BOEE to adopt rules that allow
5 an individual seeking a career and technical secondary
6 authorization to apply, and if eligible, be issued the
7 secondary authorization prior to accepting an offer of
8 employment with a school.

9 The bill requires the BOEE to grant a temporary initial
10 teaching license to an applicant who holds a bachelor's degree
11 from an accredited college or university and successfully
12 completes an alternative teacher certification program. The
13 bill describes what an alternative teacher certification
14 program must include.

15 The bill establishes requirements for alternative teacher
16 certification programs, including that the program must operate
17 in at least five states and must have been in operation for at
18 least 10 years.

19 The bill provides that an individual who successfully
20 completes an alternative teacher certification program and who
21 is granted a temporary initial teaching license is authorized
22 to teach the subjects and grade levels that the individual
23 successfully completed during the program.

24 The bill requires the BOEE to treat an individual who
25 successfully completes an alternative teacher certification
26 program and who is granted a temporary initial teaching license
27 in the same manner as an individual who completes a traditional
28 teacher preparation program and who receives an initial
29 teaching license, including during the process of converting
30 the temporary initial teaching license to a standard teaching
31 license.

32 Code section 272.28 establishes requirements for teacher
33 licensure beyond an initial license. Pursuant to current
34 Code section 272.28, the requirements for teacher licensure
35 beyond an initial license include successful completion of a

1 beginning teacher mentoring and induction program; two years
2 of successful teaching experience in a school district with
3 an approved career paths, leadership roles, and compensation
4 framework; or evidence of not less than three years of
5 successful teaching experience with certain specified programs.
6 The bill modifies Code section 272.28 to impose these same
7 requirements on individuals attempting to obtain teacher
8 licensure beyond a temporary initial teaching license.